

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 10670 082008Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 W
-----120267 091602Z /47

R 081615Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3419

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FOR EUR/WE - PLEASE PASS TO AMBASSADOR GARDNER

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, IT
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR GARDNER U.S. VISIT--PRESS COVERAGE

1. OUR JUNE 8 MEDIA REACTION CABLE CARRIES EXTENSIVE EXCERPTS OF AN UNSIGNED LA REPUBBLICA FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE WHICH COMMENTS ON YOUR MEETING WITH U.S. CONGRESSMEN, CITES QUESTIONS BY SENATOR JAVITS AND CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ AND MENTIONS PAJETTA MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG. THE TONE IS VINTAGE LA REPUBBLICA. POINT OF ARTICLE IS TO SHOW THAT THERE IS OPEN WATER BETWEEN YOU AND SOME IN EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES ON PCI QUESTION. REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO YOU BY LA REPUBBLICA APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN LIFTED IN PART FROM MARINO DE MEDICI PIECE WHICH APPEARED IN IL TEMPO YESTERDAY. WE ARE UNABLE TO JUDGE WHETHER ATTITUDES OF JAVITS AND SOLARZ ARE CHARACTERIZED FAIRLY.

2. REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO YOU WILL SURPRISE NO ONE AND DISTRESS ONLY THOSE READERS OF LA REPUBBLICA WHO SHARE SCALFARI'S OBJECTIONS TO OUR POLICY ON PCI. TONE OF ARTICLE IS SNIDE, AND JUXTAPOSITION OF YOUR VIEW WITH ALLEGEDLY MORE "POSSIBILISTA" ATTITUDES OF JAVITS, YOUNG AND SOLARZ IS LABORED. WE NEVERTHELESS

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CONCLUDE THAT WE WOULD GAIN NOTHING BY EITHER WRITTEN RESPONSE OR PERSONAL REMONSTRANCE. WE SHOULD NEVERTHELESS CONSIDER RAISING MATTER WITH SCALFARI THE NEXT TIME WE DISCUSS WITH HIM OUR CONTINUING OBJECTIONS TO THE WAY HIS PAPER COVERS THE UNITED STATES. HOLMES

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